



PATENT
Atty. Docket No. CYM-025

D. Haywood
#9/p
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ostgaard et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/156,952

ART UNIT: 1743

FILING DATE: September 18, 1998

EXAMINER: Patricia K. Bex

TITLE: SAMPLE VIAL FOR USE IN PREPARING CYTOLOGICAL SPECIMEN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action, Paper No. 7, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on 01/21/00 for which the period of response is set to expire on 04/21/00, and which is extended to 06/21/00 by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time for Two Months, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and response.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows, without prejudice:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 9 and 11.

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1. (amended) A sample vial for use in an automated test apparatus, the sample vial comprising:
a body comprising [a generally cylindrical] an outer surface, an open end, a closed end,
and at least one anti-torque lug about said body outer surface;
a cap releasably engagable with said body, said cap comprising an outer surface and a
torque pattern on said cap outer surface, said torque pattern comprising a plurality of radially
disposed ribs; and
a seal disposed between said body and said cap so as to be capable of forming a
substantially fluid-tight seal therebetween.